

DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION (JOINT OR SOLE)
(Under 37 CFR § 1.63; with Power of Attorney)
CURTIS, MORRIS & SAFFORD, P.C. File No. 45010-3752

As a below named Inventor, I hereby declare that:

* My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.
I believe I am the original, first and sole Inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an
original, first and sole Inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed
and for which a patent is sought on the invention ENTITLED:

INFORMATION RETRIEVAL APPARATUS AND METHOD

the specification of which

is attached hereto.

_____ was filed on _____ as Application Serial No. _____, with
amendment(s) through _____ (if applicable, give date).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understood the contents of the above-identified
specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information
known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Sec. 1.56.
I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign
application(s) for patent or Inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign
application(s) for patent or Inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on
which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s) (list additional applications on separate page):	Priority Claimed:		
Number: 07-336445	Country: Japan	Filed (Day/Month/Year): 22/12/95	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States
application(s) listed below for the subject matter of each of the claims of this application if
not disclosed in the prior United States application(s). If the disclosure provided by the first paragraph of Title
35, United States Code § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark
Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal
Regulations, Sec. 1.56, which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the
national or PCT international filing date of the application.

Prior U.S. Application(s) (list additional applications on separate page):	Status (patented, pending, abandoned):
Appln. Ser. Number: Filed (Day/Month/Year):	Status (patented, pending, abandoned):

I hereby appoint WILLIAM S. FROHNER, Registration No. 25,506,
ALVIN SINGERBERG, Registration No. 16,313, and
CURTIS, MORRIS & SAFFORD, P.C., Registration No. 12,761, or their duly appointed associates, my attorneys,
and with full power of substitution make assignments, prosecute this application, to make alterations and
modifications therein, to file continuation and divisional applications thereon, to receive the Patent, and to
specify that all communications about the application are to be directed to the following correspondence
address:

WILLIAM S. FROHNER, Esq.
c/o CURTIS, MORRIS & SAFFORD, P.C.
550 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10036

Direct all telephone calls to:
(212) 986-1100
to the attention of:
WILLIAM S. FROHNER

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all
statements of information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were
made with the knowledge that such false statements and the like are made are punishable by fine or
imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 and 1010 of the United States Code and that such willful false
statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.
INVENTOR(S):

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Residence: Hirokatsu Kitano
Citizenship: Settame, Japan
Japan

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Full name of 2nd Joint Inventor (if any): Junichi Reikado
Residence: Kanagawa, Japan
Citizenship: Japan

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Full name of 3rd Joint Inventor (if any):
Residence: Citizenship:

(Similarly list additional Inventors on separate page)
Post Office Address(es) of Inventor(s): Sony Corporation
(if different from residence) 7-13, Shinsaitama 6-chome
Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo, Japan

Note: In order to qualify for reduced fees available to small entities, each Inventor and any other
individual or entity having rights to the invention must also sign the separate statement "Verified
Statement (Declaration) Clazing or Supporting a Claim by Another for? Small Entity Status" (e.g., for
Independent Inventor, Small Business Concern, Nonprofit Organization, Individual Non-Inventor).